THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) The unauthorised colonies of Delhi are mainly affected due to the drainage congestion. The blockage of drains and overflow during excessive rains have also affected some of the urban areas.

(d) The main reasons for drainage congestion are excessive growth of unauthorised pockets and colonies, low lying areas without adequate drainage facilities, frequent checking of the local drains due to dumping of garbage by residents, silting of existing drains and inadequate outfalls.

(e) Annual desilting of the drains, remodelling of drains for increased discharges and construction of new trunk drains such as supplementary Drain and Jahangirpuri Outfall Drain have been taken up by Government of NCT of Delhi to solve the drainage congestion problem.

Setting up of Stroke Unit

3347. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal for setting up of 16 beds "Stroke Unit" to treat cerebro-vascular disorders at NIMHANS, Bangalore under the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the estimated cost of the proposed unit; and

(c) whether the Government will give assistance if major Government Hospitals in Karnataka come forward to set up "Stroke Units"?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) There is a proposal for setting up of 16 beds "Stroke Unit" to treat Cerebre-vascular disorders at NIMHANS.

(b) The estimated cost would be Rs.1.51 crore including building, equipments and staff.

(c) Presently there is no scheme for providing this sort of assistance.

[Translation]

Child Prostitution

3348. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :
SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH :
SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that Child prostitution is increasing constantly in the country;

(b) the number of child prostitution cases that have came to light till 1995;

(c) whether any scheme is being prepared or any steps are being taken by the Government to check child prostitution;

(d) whether Government have prepared scheme to provide them employment or to provide some other measures for self-employment, and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) No, Sir. There are no reliable statistics available about the number of child prostitutes

(b) Total number of cases of buying/selling of girls for prostitution reported in 1995 are as under :

Selling : 16 : Buying : 18

(c) Apart from stricter enforcement of the existing provisions of the following laws :

(i) The Indian Penal Code;

(ii) The Immoral Traffic Prevention Act; and

(iii) The Juvenile Justice Act

the Government has refered to the Law Commission certain amendments in the major criminal laws to tackle sexual abuse of children, recommended by the National Commission for Women.

The Government has also set up a Central Advisory Committee for an ongoing review and recommendations of both legal and non-legal approaches to the rescue and rehabilitation of children in prostitution. In addition, the Government is attempting to bring about an overall improvement in the status of children, especially girl children, through better education, health care and empowerment of women.

(d) and (e). Schemes for employment and income generation like Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Jawahar Rojgar Yojana (JRY), Support to Training and Employment Programme (STEP), Setting up of Employment-cum-Income Generating Units for Women (NORAD), Socio-Economic Programme (SEP), Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK), Training of Rural Youth for Self Employment (TRYSEM) and Development of Women and Children in Rural Area (DWCRA) are implemented especially in high supply areas of prostitutes and for rehabilitation of rescued prostitutes.

Gandhi's Letters

3349. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any tip of 450 unpublished letters written by Mahatma Gandhi during his last days;